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6 January 1959



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

II. ASIA-AFRICA

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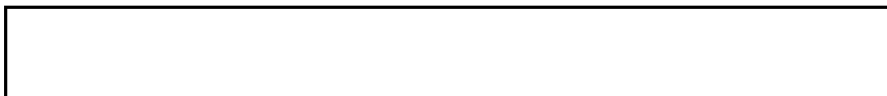
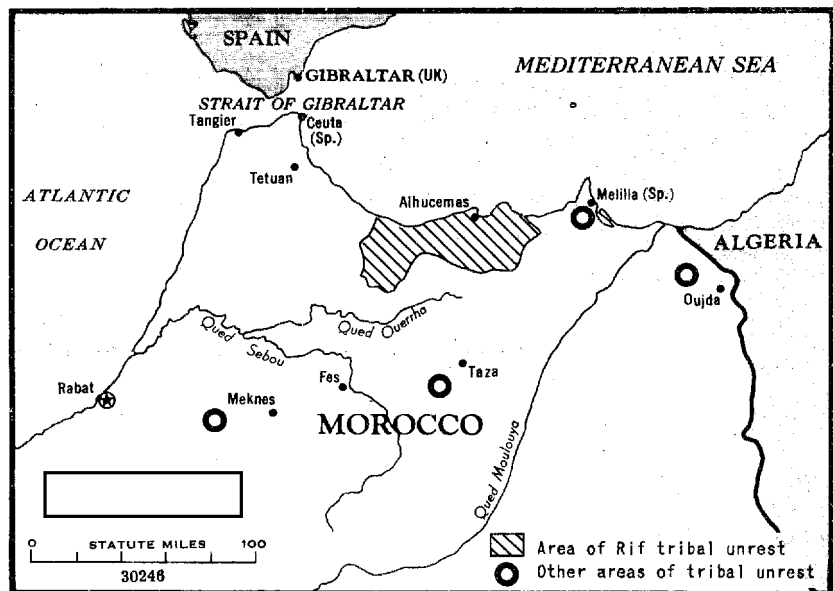
no Morocco: King Mohamed V has publicly ordered dissident elements in northern Morocco's Rif, Middle Atlas, and Oujda regions to cease their illegal activities, directed primarily against the dominant Istiqlal party, by noon on 7 January or face disciplinary action by "every means." This suggests the King has reluctantly decided to use recently strengthened and redeployed royal army troops, if necessary, in an effort to head off a major tribal uprising.

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Laos: [The special assembly session at which Premier Phoui plans to demand full powers has been postponed from 5 to 10 January. Phoui wants to secure his party's support at a 7 January caucus, thus perhaps obviating the need for supporting action by the military. Defense and Interior Minister Katay, who opposes Phoui's plans, remains a possible stumbling block because of his considerable influence in political and military circles in southern Laos.]

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Indonesia: (Several high-level army officers, including one of the deputy chiefs of staff and the intelligence chief, will soon be dismissed on corruption charges, according to Premier Djuanda. This could increase army pressures for similar action against civilian officials, including Foreign Minister Subandrio, who are also said to be involved in illegal activities.)

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DAILY BRIEF

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High Indonesian Army Officers May Be Dismissed in
Barter Scandals

Prime Minister Djuanda has informed the American ambassador that the army will soon dismiss four colonels, including the army intelligence chief and a deputy chief of staff, who have been involved in "barter scandals." The four officers have been found guilty of abusing their position by engaging in illegal barter trade. Seven other officers--two majors and five colonels--will be court-martialed, [REDACTED]

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Djuanda also told the ambassador that the government plans to continue its investigation of corruption among government officials. This statement may indicate that Army Chief of Staff General Nasution has succeeded in persuading Djuanda to move against corrupt civil officials in return for Nasution's action against his officers. Civil officials involved in illegal activities reportedly include Foreign Minister Subandrio.

Principal pressure for action against the army has come from the National and Communist parties. [The cabinet seems likely to consider this question this week, and it is possible that with action against civil officials in view, some compromise will be reached that will mitigate the punishment of the four colonels.] Soft-pedaling the issue would avoid giving the Communists an opportunity to claim joint responsibility for a campaign against the army and corruption. [REDACTED]

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